



## Foundation Communities' Cash for College Program— FAFSA Preparer Volunteer Description

### Project Description

Due to cumbersome financial aid forms like the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and lack of information about higher education costs and financial aid, prevent many students from low-income families from even considering higher education. Foundation Communities' **Cash for College** program trains volunteers to complete the FAFSA and provide basic guidance on the cost of higher education and how to pursue high education. Volunteers work one-on-one with clients at Community Tax Centers sites.

### Volunteer Responsibilities

- Individually assist clients by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Answer basic questions regarding FAFSA and financial aid
- Talk to Community Tax Center clients in waiting room about the FAFSA

We will also be holding three **information sessions** for anyone wanting more information about the FAFSA Preparer volunteer opportunity. **You must participate in an information session in order to participate in training.**

- Wednesday, December 14th, 6-7pm in person or call in, at Foundation Communities' Administrative Building, located at 3036 S. 1st St.
- Thursday, December 15th, 12-1pm, conference call
- Tuesday, January 3rd, 12-1pm, conference call

### Training

Volunteers are required to complete one-hour of at-home training, and then attend one two-hour in-person training. The in-person training is held at our Community Financial Center, 2600 W. Stassney Lane. There are 2 trainings scheduled: Wednesday, January 4th, 2pm-4pm, and Saturday, January 7th, 10am-12pm.

### Time Commitment and Dates for Volunteering

Volunteers sign up for three-hour long shifts during tax season to help clients. Volunteers must commit to at least 9 hours (three shifts), not including training.

Volunteer FAFSA Preparers will have the opportunity to volunteer during six of the Saturdays at the tax season's busiest time: Saturdays, January 28th, February 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, and March 3rd.

### Locations for Volunteering

During tax season, FAFSA services are available at the three largest Community Tax Center Locations:

- Foundation Communities' Community Financial Center, 2600 West Stassney Lane
- Montopolis Recreation Center, 1200 Montopolis Drive
- Workforce Solutions, 6505 Airport Blvd.

**To get involved or request more information**, contact Courtney Salcedo, volunteer coordinator at [Courtney.Salcedo@foundcom.org](mailto:Courtney.Salcedo@foundcom.org).

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